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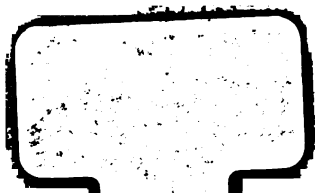
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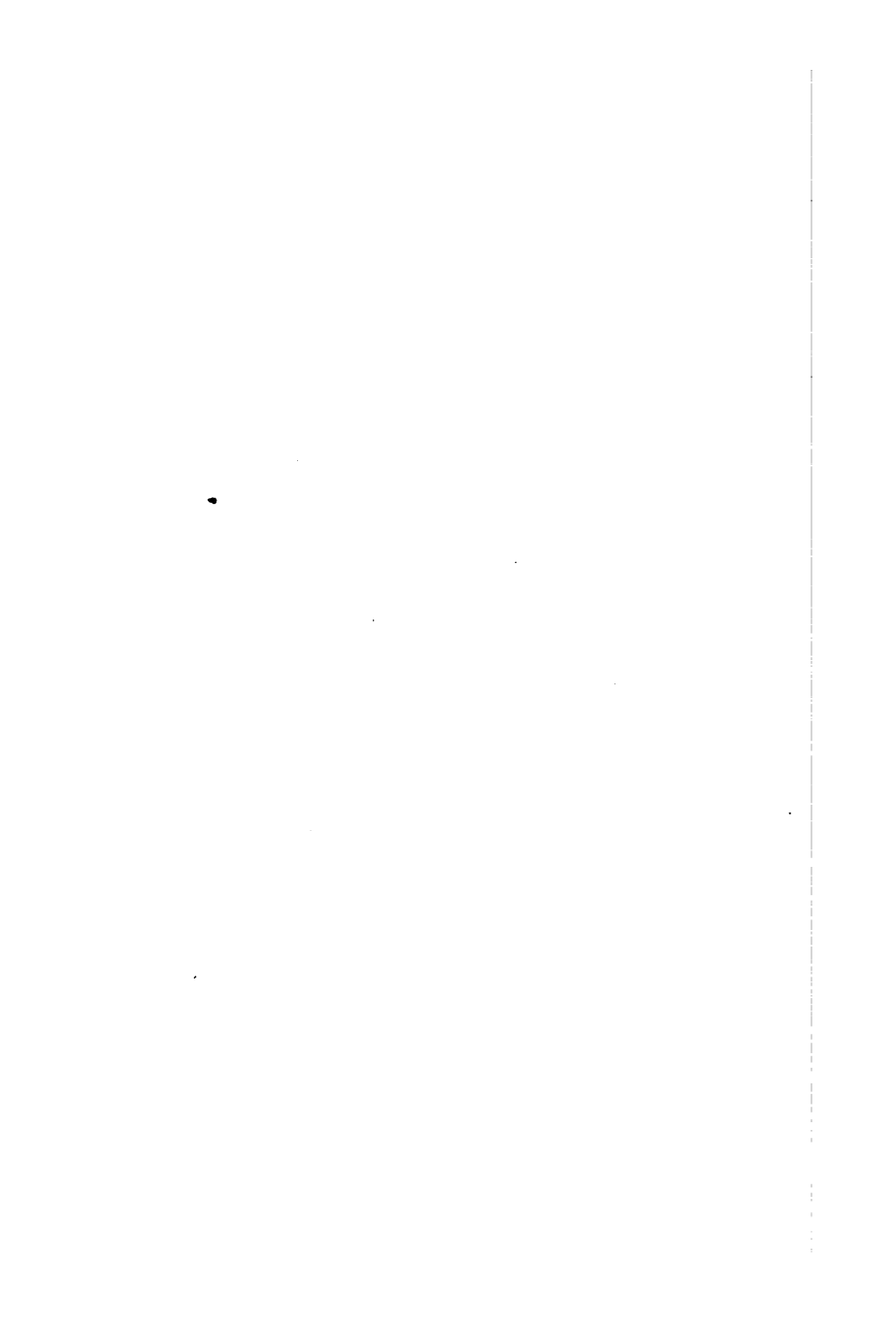
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Lent



600100052E





LENT.

Note.—It has been thought desirable that these
Meditations should embrace the six Sundays
falling in Lent, and Easter Sunday.

R. Clay, Sons, and Taylor, Printers, London.

LENT.

MEDITATIONS,

AND A

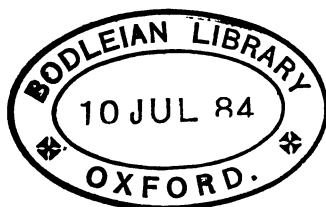
LITANY,

FOR

Each Day in Lent.

LONDON:
WALTER SMITH (LATE MOZLEY),
34, KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN.
1883.

1405. 2 5.



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ASH-WEDNESDAY.

Who hath believed our report ? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed ? for he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground : he hath no comeliness ; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we shall desire him.

MEDITATION.

OUR Lord's humiliation ; in His lowly birth ; His being made of no reputation ; His daily life of meekness and lowliness ; His fasting ; and temptation ; His enduring such contradiction of sinners ; His poverty, in that He had not where to lay His head ; the love by which He bore all this.

LITANY.

By Thy holy incarnation,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy deep humiliation,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy forty days' fast,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy temptation in the wilderness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy endurance of reviling,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy daily privations,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy love which endured all for us,

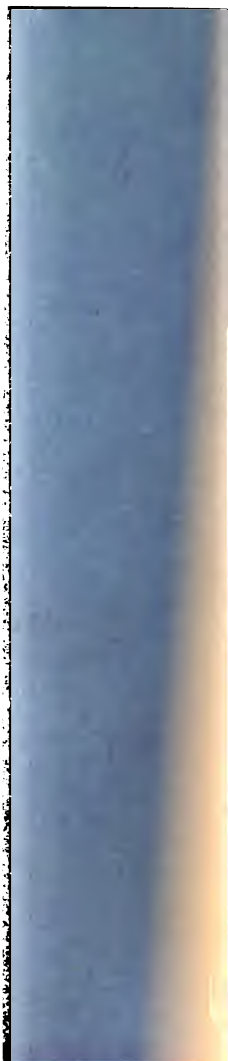
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From pride and self-will ; from self-indulgence and self-pleasing ; from impatience under crosses ; from forgetfulness of Thy long-suffering and unchangeable love,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.



600100052E



FRIDAY.

He is despised and rejected of men ; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief ; and we hid as it were our faces from him ; **he was** despised and we esteemed him not.

MEDITATION.

His consenting to be classed with publicans and sinners ; to be stoned for a good work ; to be misunderstood of His friends ; to be alone in His sorrows ; forsaken of His friends ; to be acquainted with all grief ; to suffer *all* that He might pity all.

LITANY.

By Thy life of loneliness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

And death of sorrow,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine acquaintanceship with grief,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy meek endurance,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

And willingness to forgive,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the desertion of Thine own,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

And Thine unheeded sufferings,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From repining against loneliness ; from undue eagerness for human sympathy ; from allowing any evil to usurp Thy place in our heart ; from forgetfulness of Thy cross and passion,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

THURSDAY.

As many were astonished at thee ; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men.

MEDITATION.

UPON the suffering which led to His being thus disfigured ; the long life of privation ; the daily crosses He had to bear ; the long night of agony in Gethsemane ; the cruel buffetings and scourgings ; the faintness and weariness ; the love which led to this.

LITANY.

By Thy daily sorrows,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy faintness and weariness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy fastings and prayers,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the insults Thou didst endure,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy long night of agony,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy bitter mockings and revilings,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From carelessness in prayer ; from impatience in sorrow ; from weariness in doing good ; from forgetfulness of Thy long-suffering and unchangeable love,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

FRIDAY.

He is despised and rejected of men ; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief ; and we hid as it were our faces from him ; he was despised and we esteemed him not.

MEDITATION.

His consenting to be classed with publicans and sinners ; to be stoned for a good work ; to be misunderstood of His friends ; to be alone in His sorrows ; forsaken of His friends ; to be acquainted with all grief ; to suffer *all* that He might pity all.

LITANY.

By Thy life of loneliness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

And death of sorrow,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

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Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy meek endurance,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

And willingness to forgive,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the desertion of Thine own,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

And Thine unheeded sufferings,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From repining against loneliness ; from undue eagerness for human sympathy ; from allowing any evil to usurp Thy place in our heart ; from forgetfulness of Thy cross and passion,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

SATURDAY.

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows :
yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

MEDITATION.

FOR us He was stricken ; for us He fasted ; for us
He was tempted ; for us He endured ; how have we
appreciated such love ? Many refuse to hear Him ;
many during His life laid the reproach upon Him ;
even His own friends add to the thorns in His
crown by sin and backsliding.

LITANY.

By taking on Thyself our sins,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy sympathy with our temptations,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine own sinlessness when tempted,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy consenting to be misunderstood,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine endurance of reproaches,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the hiding of Thy Father's face,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From sinning wilfully ; from fainting under
temptation ; from doubts of Thy willingness to
help those that are tempted ; from turning aside
from Thee ; or mistrust of Thine infinite love,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities : the chastisement of our peace was upon him ; and with his stripes we are healed.

MEDITATION.

FOR us He was wounded ; His head was pierced with thorns ; His back ploughed with the scourge ; His hands and feet pierced ; His side riven ;—all this that we might be healed ; that in His wounds we might hide, and so be safe.

LITANY.

By Thy riven side,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By thy wounded brow,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy pierced hands,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the streams of water and blood,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy stripes,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy long hours of ignominy and woe,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From piercing Thy heart by ingratitude ; from despising Thy woes by forgetfulness ; from neglect of the healing streams of water and of blood,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

MONDAY.

All we like sheep have gone astray ; we have turned every one to his own way ; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

MEDITATION.

How often have we gone astray ? How often neglected the long-suffering of Christ ? How have we been filled with our own ways ? But He abideth ever ; His love has followed, sought us out, pardoned, renewed, gently led us by paths that we knew not, drawing us with the cords of love : may we not be insensible to so much love !

LITANY.

By Thy patient love,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy tenderness for the sheep,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine unchangeableness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy mission to seek and save the lost,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy pity for our infirmities,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy mercy in bearing our sins,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From going astray after vanities ; from neglecting the voice of love ; from despising Thy long-suffering ; from joining with those who caused Thee such bitter woe,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

TUESDAY.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth : he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

MEDITATION.

His silence before His judges ; the innocent, the immaculate Lamb of God, accused by the wicked and answering not a word ; what patience, humility, long-suffering, and great dignity, did our Lord display ! Teach us to meditate upon Thee, and to think on Thy perfect fulfilment of all righteousness.

LITANY.

By Thy silence before Thy judges,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy perfect fulfilment of all righteousness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy long-suffering with us sinners,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy patience and quiet waiting,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy submission to Thy Father's will,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy prayers for those who persecuted Thee,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From too great eagerness for the praise of men ;
from impatience under injustice ; from rebellion
against our Father's will ; and from speaking un-
advisedly with our lips,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

WEDNESDAY.

He was taken from prison and from judgment : and who shall declare his generation ? for he was cut off out of the land of the living : for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

MEDITATION.

OUR blessed Lord taken into the judgment-hall ; blasphemed of the Jews ; accused by false witnesses ; condemned to a death of shame ; giving Himself for those who hated and persecuted Him ; alone in the midst of His enemies.

LITANY.

By Thy sufferings in the judgment-hall,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the blasphemies thou didst endure,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine unknown sorrows,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy going forth to Calvary,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy willingness to suffer,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy straitening till all was accomplished,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all this,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From shrinking at the thought of following Thee ; even though in the path of sorrow ; from being ashamed of Thee ; from drawing back ; from bitterness against those who differ from us,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

THURSDAY.

And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death ; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

MEDITATION.

OUR Lord crucified with the thieves ; mocked by one ; pardoning the other ; full of tenderness for others in the midst of His own bitter agony ; taken down from the cross ; laid in the grave ; all things spoken concerning Him being accomplished.

LITANY.

By Thy condemnation with sinners,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By thy three days' sepulture,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy spotless life,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the word of Thy Truth,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy teaching and example,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By thy signs and mysteries,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy love which wrought all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From all deadness of heart ; from all departure from the truth ; from unwillingness to learn ; from all sinful desires ; from wilful offending.

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

FRIDAY.

Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

MEDITATION.

ON our Lord was laid the iniquity of us all; He deigned to be condemned; to be bruised by God for our sins; to suffer His Father's wrath; but on the cross He was able to contemplate the redemption that His love had wrought; and in such thought there must have been joy; light breaking through the darkness, at the last.

LITANY.

By Thy trouble of heart,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy endurance of Thy Father's wrath,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy patient submission,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy hanging on the cross,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy long hours of agony,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By thy finished sacrifice,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From the wrath of God; from seeking peace in any thing short of Thee; from distrust of Thy power to save from wearying under the cross,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

SATURDAY.

He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied :
by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many ;
for he shall bear their iniquities.

MEDITATION.

He saw of the travail of His soul ; at the end of a
life of constant self-denial, of weariness, watch-
ings, prayers, fastings, tears, agony : at the last,
when all was endured, the feeble pulses stopped,
the bruised head was bowed, He saw that all was
finished, and it was enough ; love had fulfilled all.

LITANY.

By Thy oblation of life,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy taking our nature upon Thee,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy tears for human woes,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy nights of prayer,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy weariness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy justifying grace,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From neglect of Thine examples ; from slighting
Thy commands ; from thinking too much of bodily
ease ; from fearing to follow Thy steps in all
things,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT.

Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

MEDITATION.

ON earth sorrow; hereafter glory, honour, praise, majesty, dominion, power, will be ascribed to the Lamb Who redeemed us: in His footsteps the Christian treads; here strife, often sorrow; hereafter, to the faithful, joy unspeakable and in their Saviour's presence: but what sorrow was ever like His sorrow? and yet love was greater, and rose above it.

LITANY.

By Thy priestly office,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy prevailing intercession,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy knowledge of our wants,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By our need of Thee,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy readiness to hear,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy human sympathies,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From falling into sin; from blindness of heart; from coldness or indifference; from turning aside from temptations in the world; from slighting Thy love,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

MONDAY.

My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?

MEDITATION.

OUR Saviour, when under the hidings of His Father's countenance, uttered this cry. Who can estimate the depth of suffering it involved! Our Lord under sentence of condemnation; borne down with the weight of our sins; Christ made sin for us, Who knew no sin; forsaken of men, and now forsaken of God; all darkness and despair; and infinite depths of love, which we can but contemplate and adore.

LITANY.

By Thy bitter cry to God,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the darkness of Thy despair,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine overflowing cup of sorrow,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine endurance to the end,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy perfect humanity,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy long hours of woe,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine unutterable love,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

In the hours of darkness; from despairing thoughts; from lukewarmness; from indifference to Thy messages of mercy; in our daily life; in our daily strife against sin,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

TUESDAY.

O my God, I cry in the daytime, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent.

MEDITATION.

IN the day-time of life He cried unto God ; in the night of Gethsemane He prayed for relief. His constant refuge was prayer ; and now, for a season, He is left unheard ; in vain He urges His almost insupportable suffering ; God turned His face away from our Surety ; surely He hath borne our sins and carried our iniquities.

LITANY.

By Thy life of prayer,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine agony in Gethsemane,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy cross and passion,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine hour of darkness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy pleading with the Father,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy victory at last,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From the dominion of sin ; by the remembrance of Thy passion ;—from the love of sin ; by the thought of all Thou didst suffer because of it ;—from ever being forsaken of God,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

WEDNESDAY.

Our fathers trusted in thee : they trusted, and thou didst deliver them. They cried unto thee, and were delivered : they trusted in thee, and were not confounded. But I am a worm, and no man ; a reproach of men, and despised of the people.

MEDITATION.

OUR Lord calls to mind the affliction of the saints with the reflection that they 'were delivered;' while He, the beloved of the Father, was in the lowest depths of woe and humiliation; cast into utter darkness for a time; suffering in His humanity all that human nature could suffer.

LITANY.

By the remembrance of past suffering,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy condescension in bearing all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the reproaches heaped upon Thee,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

The utter desolation of heart,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

The revilings of the wicked,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy deep abasement,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From proud thoughts, by the contemplation of Thy humility; from repining thought, by the remembrance of Thy patience; from any course in opposition to Thee,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

THURSDAY.

All they that see me laugh me to scorn : they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted on the Lord that he would deliver him : let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him.

MEDITATION.

OUR blessed Lord was hanging on the cross ; a spectacle to men and angels. They that passed by railed on Him, wagging their heads and mocking. The Saviour of the world dying for man ; and they heeded not His sufferings, but aggravated them with taunts and scorn. Was ever love like Thy love, who wouldst not put forth Thy Divine power to mitigate one pang ?

LITANY.

By Thy hanging on the cross,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the laughter and the scorn,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the taunts and revilings,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the aggravation of Thy sufferings,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy sinking of heart,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy patience under all,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured this for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From joining with Thine enemies ; from slighting Thy voice which speaketh from the cross ; from doubting Thy power to save, and Thy long-suffering love,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

FRIDAY.

Reproach hath broken my heart ; and I am full of heaviness : and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none ; and for comforters, but I found none.

MEDITATION.

WHAT words could more fully express the depth of our Lord's suffering ? " Oh, most entire and perfect sacrifice ; renewed in every pulse that on the painful cross told the long hours of death, as one by one the life-strings of that tender heart gave way ;"—none to help ; none to comfort ; forsaken of many of His disciples ; the few that remained gazing in speechless sorrow ; none to comfort.

LITANY.

By Thy heart broken by reproach,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy spirit weighed down to the dust,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine unpitied agonies,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine isolated sorrows,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy yearnings for sympathy,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy tenderness of spirit,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From adding one pang to Thy tender heart ;
from refusing when called to the fellowship of
Thy sufferings ; from preferring anything to
Thee ; from holding back from the fulness of
Thy sympathy ; which is all we need,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

SATURDAY.

Be not far from me ; for trouble is near ; for there is none to help.

MEDITATION.

DOUBTLESS, though hid under a cloud, the Father was watching over his Beloved One ; doubtless, though seemingly alone, angels were gazing with adoring love ; and though fainting under the hidings of His Father's face, our Lord still used the language of a son who trusts through all. Though unfelt, unseen,—“ Be not far from me.”

LITANY.

By Thy fainting under the burden,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy childlike faith,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy fulfilment of every requirement,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy consenting to be desolate,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy perfect humanity,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy waiting upon God,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From giving way to despair ; from doubting the love of our reconciled Father, though under the hidings of His face ; from shrinking from the narrow path which our Lord has trodden before us,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT.

Many bulls have compassed me : strong bulls of Bashan have beset me round. They gaped upon me with their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion.

MEDITATION.

SURROUNDED by a multitude, shouting, jeering, smiting, insulting Him, truly might they be compared to wild bulls. What a picture is here ! and yet for these He prayed,—“ Father, forgive them ! ” this was the climax of love ; truly He came to seek and to save the lost, since He saved even them.

LITANY.

By Thy mission to save,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy crowning act of mercy,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy prayers for sinners,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy purposes of mercy,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By thine unchangeableness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy words of love,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From despairing of the salvation of any ; from condemning others ; from fretting under reproof ; from speaking hastily or in anger ; from an unforgiving spirit,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

MONDAY.

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels.

MEDITATION.

OUR Lord stretched upon the cross; fainting under the prolonged suffering; the body enfeebled, so that the power of endurance is almost gone; the bones dislocated by the position of the body; what thoughts of His bodily weakness does this contemplation give, and of His patient endurance.

LITANY.

By Thy faintness and exhaustion,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy suffering humanity,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy pouring out Thy soul unto death,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy disjointed members,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy hours of weakness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy death of exhaustion,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

When fainting by the way; when in sickness or sorrow; when laid on a bed of death,—from murmuring thoughts; from forgetfulness of Thy love,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

TUESDAY.

My strength is dried up like a potsherd ; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws ; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death.

MEDITATION,

OUR Lord upon the cross, in another stage of suffering ; exhaustion succeeded by feverish heat, so that His whole frame seemed dried up ; His mouth parched up ; and the long wished for death now approaching.

LITANY.

By Thy fevered frame,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy parched lips,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine aching frame,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy failing strength,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy wearied spirit,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy looking for death,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From any fever in our hearts ; from any dryness of soul, when our spirits are faint ; when our strength fails,—by Thine experience of all the sorrows of humanity,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

WEDNESDAY.

I may tell all my bones.

MEDITATION.

OUR Lord's description of Himself shows how by suffering He was reduced. His life of self-denial ; His incessant labours ; His nights of prayer ; the last week of incessant toil and anguish had reduced Him to this. What a rebuke to self-pleasing is the contemplation of Thee, most blessed Saviour !

LITANY.

By Thy worn frame,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy incessant labours of love,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy bearing of our sorrows,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy fastings for us,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy watchings for us,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy prayers for us,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all this,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

When tempted to neglect duty ; when wearied of doing good ; when tempted to rest before the goal is won ; when waxing cold in prayer,
Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

THURSDAY.

They look and stare upon me.

MEDITATION,

ON the cross our Lord was exposed to the rude gaze of the multitude, mocking His emaciated frame, commenting upon His sufferings : He could not hide Himself from the insulting gaze ; wherever His eyes turned, He was exposed to it. How His holy and tender nature must have shrunk under the infliction.

LITANY,

By Thy endurance, of insult,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy shrinking from the gaze of sinners,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy holy and tender nature,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine exposure to the taunts of the wicked,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the rude comments of Thine enemies,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By all these aggravations of Thy woe,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

When exposed to censure ; when grieved by unkindness,—from over-estimating our grievances ; from being tempted to deny Thee,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

FRIDAY.

They pierced my hands and my feet.

MEDITATION.

WHAT are these wounds in Thine hands—those with which I was wounded in the house of My friends? And is it so? have we helped to pierce Him? Alas! our sins nailed Him to the cross; our evil nature caused the shedding of His most precious blood. Oh, infinite Love! let Thine out-poured blood be efficacious to the washing away of sin; let me hide in Thy wounds, and be safe.

LITANY.

By Thy bleeding hands,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy pierced feet,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the blood flowing around Thee,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the wounds caused by us,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy sufficient atonement,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy cross and passion,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From piercing Thee afresh by sin; from despising Thy cross, which is our only hope; from seeking any other refuge but Thee,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

SATURDAY.

They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

MEDITATION.

AND they gave Him wine to drink, mingled with myrrh, but He received it not; our Lord refused even this alleviation of His pain. "Oh! awful in Thy woe, the parching thirst of death is on Thee, and Thou triest the slumbrous potion bland, and wilt not drink; for rather wouldst Thou wrestle with strong pain, than overcloud Thy soul, so clear in agony."

LITANY.

By Thy refusal of the soothing cup,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy determination to bear all,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy varied trials,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By thy steadfastness in fulfilling all,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By all the evil Thou didst suffer,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

In Thy passage from the cradle to the cross,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From impatience or murmuring, in the hour of trial; from shrinking from conformity to Thee, in Thy life of devotion and of self-denial,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT.

They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

MEDITATION.

THIS fulfilment of prophecy carries us on to see how minutely the least thing concerning our Lord was fulfilled ; He was counted of no esteem, yet His raiment was the object of their cupidity ; another indignity laid upon the spotless Lamb of God.

LITANY.

By all that Thou didst suffer,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

In Gethsemane,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

In Gabbatha,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

In Calvary,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the pain, the shame,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the curse of the cross,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From cupidity and love of gain ; from too great carefulness about earthly things ; from following the example of those who despise Thee,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

MONDAY.

But be not thou far from me, O Lord : O my strength,
haste thee to help me.

MEDITATION.

AMIDST all that our blessed Lord^d endured, His stay was upon God ; He suffered in His humanity ; we do not find Him seeking help in His own divine nature. Had He done so, He could not have entered fully into our trials : thus we listen to this cry of weakness, this seeking strength from His Father to help in time of need.

LITANY.

By Thy submission to infirmity,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy prayer of human weakness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy deigning to suffer as a man,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy perfect example,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy seeking strength from above,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the lessons conveyed to us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From mistrust of Thy sympathy ; from forgetting that Thou didst suffer all that Thou mightest pity all ; from neglect of Thy example ; from doubting that strength is given according to our need,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

TUESDAY.

Thou hast known my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonour : mine adversaries are all before thee.

MEDITATION.

OUR Lord takes comfort from the thought that His Father knows all ; from perfect resignation under His hand : so should we learn to submit, "Thou knowest" the way that I take ; all the ways of the Lord are mercy and truth. Our blessed Saviour committed all into God's hands, and was satisfied.

LITANY.

By Thy childlike submission,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy committing all to God,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy voice speaking to us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy grace helping us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy knowledge of our need,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy merciful goodness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

In our hour of need ; in the time of darkness ; under the hidings of our Father's face ; from ever falling from grace,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

WEDNESDAY.

For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up ; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me.

MEDITATION.

OUR Lord pleads with His Father ; giving us an example of prayer. His whole life was one act of submission and obedience. He reminds the Father of His perfect righteousness ; so we in prayer plead that righteousness, and are accepted because of it.

LITANY.

By Thy perfect righteousness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy perfect obedience,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine untiring zeal,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy endurance of reproach,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy oblation of life,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy sacrifice of death,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From trusting in our own righteousness ; from disobeying Thy commands ; from coldness in Thy service ; from impatience under crosses,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

THURSDAY.

For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

MEDITATION.

WHAT can be more striking than this declaration : the perfect abnegation of self ; the perfect carrying out of His human mission ; the perfect devotedness to the will of God ; may we aim after such submission, such obedience.

LITANY,

By Thy coming down from heaven,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy total sacrifice of self,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy submission,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy continual remembrance of Thy mission,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy willingness to bear the cross,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy holy devotedness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From seeking our own will ; from fearing to give ourselves wholly to Thee ; from forgetfulness of our high calling ; from mistrust of Thy tenderness and love,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

FRIDAY.

And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

MEDITATION.

OUR Lord, lifted up on the cross, foresaw that to that cross would be gathered, to the end of time, all who, weary and heavy laden with the burden of sin, sought to lay it there. He draws us to Himself, by the thoughts of His love ; by the hope of His pardon ; by the trust in His power to save.

LITANY.

By Thine uplifting on the cross,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the attraction of the cross,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy power to save,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy readiness to hear,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy willingness to forgive,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy invitation to sinners,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From turning aside from gazing upon Thee ;
from resisting Thy voice of love ; from doubts of
Thy willingness to save ; from indifference to our
salvation,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

SATURDAY.

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

MEDITATION.

THUS, while we have meditated on our Lord's sufferings on the cross, may we have been brought to realise something of His love, in dying for His friends, and not only for those who loved Him, but for His enemies and persecutors; let us not be unmindful of the voice that speaketh to us by His cross and passion.

LITANY.

By the greatness of Thy love,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy long-suffering towards us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy prayers for thine enemies,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy being led as a lamb to the slaughter,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

Taken from prison to judgment,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy laying down Thy life,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From being unmindful of so much love; from despising the riches of Thy mercy; from neglecting to follow Thine example of mercy and forgiveness,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT.

Father, forgive them ; for they know not what they do.

MEDITATION.

OUR Saviour praying for His murderers ; pleading their ignorance : many acts of mercy do we trace in His life, but surely none like this. Must we not suppose that, since Jesus interceded for them, His intercession was heard ? The desertion of friends was forgiven ; the sinner, in his dying repentance, was pardoned ; but all are little as compared to this crowning act of a life of mercy.

LITANY.

By Thy mercy towards the lowest sinners,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy desire that none should perish,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy ever ready succour,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy prevailing intercession,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy appearing before God for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy resistance to the adversary,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From sinning against Thee ; from turning away our face from the needy ; from neglect of the duty of Christian love ; from indifference to those who need our help,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

MONDAY.

Woman, behold thy son !

MEDITATION.

BEHOLD our Lord's care for His mother ; who at the foot of that cross was realising the truth of Simeon's words,—“ Yea, a sword shall pierce through thine own soul also ;” in the midst of His own agonies, her divine Son gave her the last proof of His love, by commending her to the care of St. John. How soothing to the heart must have been this proof of His tenderness !

LITANY.

By Thy thoughtful remembrance,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy tender carefulness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy love which mastered agony,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy watchfulness over Thine own,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine example to us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy love and duty,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From forgetfulness of others ; from being engrossed in our own interests ; to the neglecting of the law of love ; from passing by an opportunity of kindness,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

TUESDAY.

To-day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

MEDITATION.

WHEN the thief on the cross reviled Him, He answered not a word ; but, when the other malefactor appealed to His tender heart for forgiveness, the answer was immediate, the pardon complete ; the ransomed sinner taken with Him to Paradise. Truly His ears are " open to our prayers," and His arm is " outstretched to save."

LITANY.

By this instance of Thy readiness to save,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy willingness to listen,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy power to forgive,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the ransom Thou didst pay,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy waiting to be gracious,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the water and the blood,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From despairing of Thy pardon ; from presuming on Thy mercy ; from temptations to delay giving up ourselves wholly to Thee ; from thinking lightly of sin,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

WEDNESDAY.

Eli, Eli.

MEDITATION.

WHEN our Lord gave vent to a loud and bitter cry, they thought He called for Elias. There does not seem to have been any compassion for the anguish which wrung it from Him ; simple curiosity and a sort of expectation that he would be miraculously saved ; a sort of acknowledgment of His greatness while they professed to scorn it.

LITANY.

By the agony which thus found vent,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the hour of darkness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the wrath that was laid upon Thee,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine unpitied struggles,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy trust in Thy Father,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy victory at last,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all this,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From ever being separated from Thee ; from ever losing sight of our hope ; from mistrusting the love of our Father, and that we may be victorious at the last,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

THURSDAY.

I thirst.

MEDITATION.

AFTER hanging on the cross for so many hours, our blessed Saviour must have suffered from the thirst of fever and exhaustion; and yet it is recorded that His exclamation was not uttered with any desire to alleviate that, but simply to accomplish all things, previous to His release from suffering by death.

LITANY.

By Thine uncomplaining endurance,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy desire to accomplish all,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy constant self-denial,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy care for minute things,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy perfect knowledge,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy holy resignation,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From neglecting to deny ourselves; from forgetfulness of Thy watchful eye; from too great care for the things of this life,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

FRIDAY.

It is finished.

MEDITATION.

WHEN all was fulfilled ; when the last prophecy was accomplished ; the last type carried out ; the full satisfaction for the sins of the whole world made ; the Father's just wrath appeased ; the gates of life opened to ransomed sinners,—then our Lord gave vent to the exclamation, "It is finished !" One sentence more, and there would be an end ;—rest at last.

LITANY.

By Thy patient waiting,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy silent abiding till all was ready,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy finished work,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the opened gate,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the path for the ransomed,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy footsteps which mark the way,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From impatience of control ; from too great hastiness in what we desire ; from turning aside from Thy foot-prints ; from losing sight of the home prepared for Thy redeemed,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

SATURDAY.

Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.

MEDITATION.

THE last drop in the cup was full ; and the broken heart gave way. The peace was wrought out. The darkness was fled ; and the light of confidence and hope was at last poured on the departing spirit. To His Father He commits His spirit, and bows His head in death.

LITANY.

By Thy mercy in coming to save us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy kindness in deigning to teach us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine unweariedness in doing good,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine unknown sufferings,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy agony and bloody sweat,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy cross and passion,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From neglecting so great a salvation ; from turning against light and knowledge ; from trifling with opportunities of grace ; from indifference to Thine infinite love,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

PALM SUNDAY.

And Jesus entered into Jerusalem, and into the temple : and when he had looked round about upon all things, and now the eventide was come, he went out unto Bethany with the twelve.

MEDITATION.

OUR Lord's sudden assumption of His kingly office ; His solemn entry into the city and into the temple, as Lord thereof ; His intent, searching gaze ; marking all the defilements and departing ; waiting yet another day before the out-pouring of His wrath on those who despised His long-suffering and mercy.

LITANY.

By Thy kingly power,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy long-suffering mercy,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy silent waiting,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy granting one day more for repentance,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine unwillingness to condemn,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the warning we receive this day,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From Thy reproving gaze ; from neglecting the day of salvation ; from provoking Thee to anger ; from being cast out by Thee,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

MONDAY.

And Jesus went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves ; and would not suffer that any man should carry any vessel through the temple.

MEDITATION.

THE day of waiting at an end ; our Lord's return in wrath. Taking vengeance upon those who have despised God, the humble and lowly Jesus, the despised Nazarene appears in his real office, and His enemies tremble before Him. The disciples must have been astonished, and have rejoiced that to them He was not an offended Master, but a loving Saviour.

LITANY.

By Thy merciful goodness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy mediatorial office,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy many prayers for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy gracious promises to us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy invitations to draw near to Thee,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy redeeming blood,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine unchanging love,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From Thine awful wrath ; in the day of Thy power ; from neglecting Thy silent lessons ; from failing to put our whole trust in Thee,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

TUESDAY.

And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

MEDITATION.

OUR Lord's return again from Bethany to teach, warn, denounce prophetic woes, and to silence His enemies. His solemn admonition is repeated to all. Watch ! for we know not the hour of His coming ; we know not the hour of our death ; we know not how long or how short our day may be ; let us listen to His voice, for it says, Watch !

LITANY.

By Thine unwearied teaching,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.
By all the words of Thy mouth,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.
By the largeness of Thy heart,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.
By Thy care for the least,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.
By Thy perfect ministry,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.
By Thy solemn warning,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.
By the love which endured so much,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From shutting our ears to Thy voice ; from a presumptuous approach to Thee ; from neglecting to watch with Thee ; from tempting Thee to depart from us,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

WEDNESDAY.

She hath done what she could.

MEDITATION.

WHAT a gracious testimony from the Lord Jesus ; what a merciful declaration, that He looks to the willing heart,—Take thy cross and follow Me. His foot-prints are before us ; His hand guides us, and the end of the faithful will be peace and rest in Him.

LITANY.

By Thy gracious acceptance of loving souls,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy deigning to notice the smallest offering,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy words of encouragement,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy going before us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy knowledge of our trials,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

And of our dangers,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From holding back in Thy service ; from neglect of opportunities of doing good ; from trusting in our own strength ; from seeking our own ways,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

THURSDAY.

And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly.

MEDITATION.

LET us approach and gaze with silent awe and adoring love : the Saviour of the world prostrate, alone, save when the anguish is so great that an angel is sent to comfort. The sweat of blood falling in great drops on the ground ; the prayer becoming more agonised ; the wrestling more intense ; and, like a halo shed around him, the perfect uncomplaining submission to all.

LITANY.

By Thy thrice-repeated prayer,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy prostrate form,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy bitter agony,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy lonely wrestlings,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy sweat of blood,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine unknown sufferings,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From all hardness of heart ; from cold and lukewarm affections ; from spiritual slumber ; from forsaking Thee,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

GOOD FRIDAY.

And they crucified him. And when the sixth hour was come there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.

MEDITATION.

THICK darkness comes over the land—fit type of the gloom which filled all hearts: darkness was in the Saviour's soul, while forsaken of His Father; darkness in the disciples' hearts while they gazed afar off; darkness o'er the desolate mother's spirit when the sword pierced her soul; the darkness of ignorance and sin in His murderers and persecutors; our Lord's sufferings had reached their utmost point; let us mourn with Him at the foot of His cross.

LITANY.

By Thine hour of darkness,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the might of Thy despair,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy overflowing cup,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy soul poured out unto death,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy patient endurance to the end,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine accomplished sacrifice,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which endured all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

From giving way to despair; from fainting because of the way; from any darkness of spirit; from failing to discern Thee,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

EASTER-EVE.

Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden ; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid.

MEDITATION.

ALL is over. The Lord of life is laid in the grave ; waiting for the resurrection morning ; after the long conflict there is a pause ; Our Lord rested from His labours ; the disciples rested according to commandment ; the persecutors rested, for their work was done. What type of the rest of the departed ; a rest of waiting, for the fulfilment of all things.

LITANY.

By the taking down from the cross,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy descent into the grave,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy doing away with the sting of death,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy typical rest,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine awaiting the resurrection,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy fulfilment of all requirements,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which has endured all for us,
Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

In the hour of death, in the day of judgment,
that we may die with Thee, and rise with Thee,
Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

EASTER-DAY.

He is not here : for he is risen.

MEDITATION.

THE chains are riven ; the victory won ; the resurrection morning has dawned ; the darkness is passed away ; and the bright light of His glory shineth forth : the gates of heaven are opened, and a way made for the ransomed to pass ; the silent grave is lighted by the Saviour's presence before us. The resurrection is one of joy to the believer because Christ is risen before him.

LITANY.

By Thy bursting the chains of death,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thy victory over the grave,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the way thus opened for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the sting of death overcome,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the glorious resurrection morning,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By Thine appearance to Thine own,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

By the love which conquered all for us,

Blessed Jesus, deliver us.

At Thy coming to raise us up, that we may rise in peace and joy ; from neglecting the lessons conveyed to us by Thy death and resurrection ; that we may be Thine for ever,

Most merciful Jesus, save and deliver us.

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